



WALK • RUN • INSPIRE

The Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award

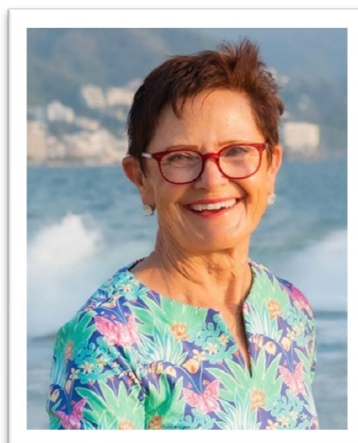
Peggy Nelson was a devoted and champion supporter of Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis.

Peggy's long personal cancer journey began at age 23 when she was diagnosed with sarcoma that ultimately took her arm, shoulder blade and collar bone. From that point, her career was focused on cancer care as an oncology nurse, then as a therapist helping cancer patients and their families find strength for their own cancer journeys.

As part of a group of professionals and community leaders in the early 1990's, Peggy helped explore bridging the gap between medical care and self-empowerment as a cancer patient leading to the formation of what is now known as Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis. She tirelessly served on its board for 29 years to ensure that no one would have to battle cancer alone. Peggy helped found CSCSTL's annual **STEPS FOR HOPE** walk that celebrates the community of people impacted by cancer and those we lovingly remember.

The **Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award** has been created in this **25th STEPS FOR HOPE** anniversary year as a tribute to Peggy's legacy at Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis. Esperanza means "hope" in Spanish. Peggy's Team Esperanza led the way with some of the largest and highest fundraising teams for many years. Her unflagging and indomitable spirit of hope was infectious and will continue to live on among the recipients of the **Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award**.

The **Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award** will be presented to an individual or company who exemplifies kindness, gives back to their community, brings positive energy to the world, and is a beacon of hope just like Peggy was. While in the darkness of cancer, there is always "hope" of seeing light again. May Peggy's spirit shine through those who continue to carry her torch.





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25
YEARS

Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award—inaugural recipient, Ann Plunkett

Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis is proud to announce that its inaugural **Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award** will be presented to **Ann Plunkett** at the CSCSTL Steps For Hope walk on Saturday, May 6 at Creve Coeur Park. Ann has been a Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis board member for over 25 years and has served in many leadership roles including board chair. Ann has provided incredible energy and support for CSCSTL over the years. Her commitment to CSCSTL has been felt at each walk through her many contributions, including fundraising, forming walk teams, helping with event set-up and tear-down and even flipping hamburgers and hotdogs! Ann has served on many other non-profit boards and continues to support those in need in our community with her generous heart.

With over 30 years of legal and human resources experience as corporate counsel, human resources executive and employment counsel in various corporate settings, Ann has been a frequent guest speaker for professional organizations. She has delivered many CSCSTL programs designed to help those impacted by cancer navigate employment issues.

The **Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award** has been created in this **25th STEPS FOR HOPE** walk anniversary year as a tribute to Peggy's legacy at Cancer Support Community of Greater St. Louis. Esperanza means "hope" in Spanish. Peggy's unflagging and indomitable spirit of hope was infectious and will continue to live on among the recipients of the **Peggy Nelson Esperanza Award**. The award will be presented to an individual or company who exemplifies kindness, gives back to their community, brings positive energy to the world, and is a beacon of hope just like Peggy was. While in the darkness of cancer, there is always "hope" of seeing light again. May Peggy's spirit shine through those who continue to carry her torch, just like Ann! We honor her with this award that represents hope for those individuals who walk through our CSCSTL doors each day in support of hope and a Community!



Ann Plunkett, recipient